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International Specialists in the Environment

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: October 27, 1986

TO: File

FROM: Randy Ekstrom/Tim Boos RAE/TMB

SUBJECT: Hazard Ranking Evaluation
Indiana/TDD R5-8307-04/IN0140
Indianapolis/96th Street Dump
IND000605709

The above referenced site is principally a municipal sanitary landfill located on the northwestern outskirts of Indianapolis, Indiana. CERCLA notifications regarding this site were submitted by both the Dow Chemical Company and Eli Lilly and Company. However, these companies both indicated that the primary types of wastes they disposed of at this site were municipal waste, trash, discarded containers, and packaging materials which may or may not have had residual amounts of hazardous waste mixed with them. There are no records of the quantities of wastes, nor is there any verification that any hazardous wastes were definitely disposed of at this site.

The following people have been contacted in order to obtain further information regarding this site.

James Mason, Dow Chemical
Mike Esarey, Eli Lilly and Company
Don Josifs, U.S. EPA - Chicago Office
Bill Steen, Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Roy Funkhauser, Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Bob Morse, Marion County Health Department

Walter Jones, Attorney for Sanitation Corp. of American (past operators of site)

None of the above contacted people could give any information regarding the types or quantities of hazardous wastes disposed of, nor could they verify that such disposal did in fact take place.

Groundwater, surface water and sediment samples were collected at the site on March 6, 1984. Analysis of the groundwater samples revealed that the levels of contaminants in wells offsite were higher than those in a well screened directly beneath the landfill. For example, arsenic was detected in wells north and south of the site at levels in excess of drinking water standards, but arsenic was not detected in the well directly on the landfill. A truly representative upgradient groundwater sample was not obtained by F.I.T. personnel because of the unexpected mounded nature of the potentiometric surface beneath the landfill. Regardless, it is doubtful an upgradient sample would be able to attribute the arsenic to the landfill, when the well screened directly below the waste shows no arsenic contamination. Sediment and surface water sample analysis detected low concentrations of trichloroethene and methylethyl ketone, but again these compounds could not be conclusively attributed to the site.

The site presently has an HRS score of "0" based on the inability to positively attribute contamination to the site and absence of verifiable waste characteristics.

For the above reasons, it is recommended that no further F.I.T. work be done at this facility, and that this site should be dropped from HRS scoring considerations.